inventory, rather than a plurality of cabinets. As such, the user can simply use the components as needed to reconfigure the various storage units. In addition, additional levels of storage can be added to the storage unit without having to disassemble already assembled lower levels. Assembly can be accomplished quickly and with minimal effort.

The present invention, together with further objects and advantages, will be best understood by reference to the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of one embodiment of a storage unit having three levels.

FIGURE 2 is an exploded perspective view of a storage unit.

FIGURE 3 is a side view of a side panel.

FIGURE 4 is a top view of the side panel shown in Figure 3.

FIGURE 5 is an end view of the side panel shown in Figure 3.

FIGURE 6 is a partial cross-sectional view of the side panel taken along line 6-6 of Figure 3.

FIGURE 7 is a partial cross-sectional view of the side panel taken along line 7-7 of Figure 3.

FIGURE 8 is a front view of a back panel.

FIGURE 9 is a top view of the back panel shown in Figure 8.

FIGURE 10 is a partial cross-sectional view of the back panel taken along line 10-10 of Figure 8.

FIGURE 11 is a partial cross-sectional view of the back panel taken along line 11-11 of Figure 8.

FIGURE 12 is a partial cross-sectional view of the back panel taken along line 12-12 of Figure 8.

FIGURE 13 is rear view of a front panel.

FIGURE 14 is a top view of the front panel shown in Figure 13.

FIGURE 15 is a partial cross-sectional view of the front panel taken along line 15-15 of Figure 13.

FIGURE 16 is a partial cross-sectional view of the front panel taken along line 16-16 of Figure 13.

FIGURE 17 is a partial cross-sectional view of the front panel taken along line 17-17 of Figure 13.

FIGURE 18 is an end view of the front panel shown in Figure 13.

FIGURE 19 is a perspective view of an insert.

FIGURE 20 is a side view of the insert shown in Figure 19.

FIGURE 21 is a backside perspective view of a drawer guide.

FIGURE 22 is a frontside perspective view of the drawer guide.

FIGURE 23 is a rear view of an alternative embodiment of a front panel.

FIGURE 24 is a partial cross-sectional view of the front panel taken along line 24-24 of Figure 23.

FIGURE 25 is a partial cross-sectional view of the front panel taken along line 25-25 of Figure 23.

FIGURE 26 is a partial cross-sectional view of the front panel taken along line 26-26 of Figure 23.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENTLY PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The terms "front", "side", "back", "top", "bottom", "upwardly" and "downwardly" as used herein are intended to indicate the various directions and portions of the storage unit and its components as normally understood when viewed from the perspective of a user facing the storage unit.

Referring to the drawings, and as best shown in FIGS. 1 and 2, a storage unit **10** can be assembled with various numbers of levels. For example, a storage unit **10** having three levels is shown in FIG. 1, while a storage unit **10** having only a single level is shown in FIG. 2. It should be understood that storage units having one or more levels can easily constructed

using the components described herein below, and that the one and three level units are meant only to be exemplary and not limiting.

Referring to FIG. 2, the storage unit **10** includes a pair of shelves **12**, and in particular, a lower and an upper shelf. Each shelf preferably has four holes **14** passing therethrough, with each hole preferably having a countersink **16**. The shelf preferably has a rectangular shape and further preferably includes rounded corners **18**. The shelf is preferably made of MDF fiber board with a clear coat of acrylic finish applied thereto, although it should be understood that other materials, including various wood, plastic and metal materials, and other finishes, including paint, laminate and melamine, would also work. The lowermost shelf is preferably flipped over such that the countersink is located on a bottom side of the shelf. The lowermost shelf **12** is further preferably configured with an additional plurality of holes, preferably four, on a bottom side thereof that are positioned and dimensioned to receive fasteners **18** that secure a support foot **20** to a bottom surface of the shelf. The support foot **20** is preferably made of sheet metal and has an elliptical cross-section with a pair of flanges extending laterally from a top of the support foot. A glide **24** is secured to the bottom of the foot, preferably with an insert portion received in an open end thereof. Preferably, the fasteners **18** secure the flanges **22** to the bottom of the shelf. Alternatively, the support foot can be configured with a caster or other type of wheel.

Referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, each level of the storage unit comprises a pair of side panels **30**, a back panel **50**, and a pair of front panels **80**, or doors. Each of the side panels **30** comprises a top **32**, a bottom **34**, a front **36** and a back **38**. The back of the side panel includes a back panel section **40** that extends laterally from a side panel section **42**. The two sections **40, 42** are joined by a curved corner portion **44**. The side and back panels sections **40, 42** in combination with the curved corner portion **44** increase the strength and rigidity of the side panel and make it more resistant to buckling and bending. Preferably, each side panel is made of sheet metal, and more preferably from a